

## **BRAC IMPLEMENTATION COMMITTEE MEETING SUMMARY – JANUARY 5, 2008**

- John Carman called the Committee to order at 9:10 a.m.
- Phil distributed a summary of Impacts and Proposed Improvement Measures that were detailed in the Draft EIS. This document is divided into the 12 resource areas identified by the EIS. **(document attached)**. Phil will use the same outline to draft a letter from the Committee to County Executive Leggett expressing the Committee's comments and concerns about the Draft EIS
- John distributed a chart summarizing Draft EIS comments that had been submitted by Committee members. **(document attached)**.
- John initiated a discussion of the Park and Planning Staff Report on the Draft EIS. Shahriar Etemadi represented MNCPPC. **(document attached)**. Shahriar noted differences in traffic counts between NNMC and MNCPPC studies and that he believes the NNMC figures underestimate projected traffic. But he believes that the numbers confirm MNCPPC's belief that a comprehensive traffic assessment must be conducted in conjunction with implementing traffic mitigations. Shahriar noted that as a "mandatory referral," MNCPPC cannot enforce any of its recommendations to NNMC.
- The Park & Planning Committee will hold a hearing on January 10, 2008. This is the agenda:  
John Carman will speak on the Committee's behalf.
- Phil informed the Committee that MNCPPC will brief the County Council on January 15<sup>th</sup>, and that the Council has expressed its desire to co-sign a letter that County Executive Leggett will send to the Navy by January 28<sup>th</sup>.
- John led a lengthy discussion about the Committees' responses to the Draft EIS. Many thanks to Jerry Cichy of MTA for volunteering to record the points that were discussed. Phil will use the notes of these deliberations, along with comments submitted prior to the meeting, to compose a draft letter to County executive Leggett. The Committee's deliberations. Phil said he expected to distribute a draft to the Committee membership within a few days.
  - NOTE: The Draft will be distributed to the Committee. The final letter will be posted on the County's BRAC web site and distributed via email to all Interested Parties when it is available.
  - It was noted that Defense Access Road (DAR) funding regulations define "unusual impacts" as a "significant increase" – a doubling of traffic -- to a military base. But that this interpretation is wholly inconsistent with the urban nature of this BRAC action. In this case, a significant amount of traffic is being added to already congested roads, causing certain intersections to fail and

accelerating the failure of others, conditions that DOD should be responsible for mitigating.

- Public Comments:
  - Tracey Johnstone raised a number of concerns about the EIS, including the report's failure to define "employees" and "visitors" and when they would be coming and going, the need to emphasize transit availability and use, and the need to enforce traffic laws in and around Bethesda.
- The Meeting was adjourned at 11:45 a.m.
- The next Committee meeting will be Tuesday, Jan 15, 2008, at 7:30 p.m. at the BCC Services Center

**Committee members in attendance, January 5, 2008:**

Phil Alpers, County BRAC Coordinator  
Tim Stelzig for Jon Alterman, Bethesda Parkview Citizens Assn.  
Pat Baptiste  
John Carman, Committee Chairman  
Brian Gragnoli, Suburban Hospital  
Shahriar Etemadi, for Royce Hanson, MNCPPC  
Ilaya Hopkins, East Bethesda Citizens Assn.  
Ginanne Italiano, GBCCC  
Janet Maalouf, Maplewood Citizens Assn.  
Deborah Michaels, Glenbrook Village Homeowners Assn.  
Patrick O'Neil, BCC Chamber of Commerce  
Michael Plantamura, Chevy Chase View  
Patrick O'Neill, GBCCCC  
Geoff Biddle, for David Smith, Western Montgomery County Citizens Advisory Board  
Ron Spalding, MDOT  
Paul Thaler, Locust Hill Citizens Assn.  
Ryan Bayha for Dan Wheeland, NIH

**Ex-officio:**

Delegate Bill Bronrott  
Sue Tabach (Sen. Mikulski)  
Ken Reichard (Sen. Cardin)

**Other attendees**

Gerald Cichy, MD Transit Administration  
Victoria Hall, East Bethesda Citizens Assn.  
Richard Hoyer (Councilmember Duchy Trachtenberg)  
Tracey Johnston, Action Committee for Transit (ACT)